

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1, 3-8 and 10-18 remain in the application. Claims 2, 9 and 19 have been withdrawn. Claims 1, 8 and 15 have been amended.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3-8, and 10-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being obvious in light of the IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin entitled, "APL with Extended Workforce", dated October 1978, hereafter referred to as IBM. Independent claims 1, 8 and 15 have been modified and now recite that the smart card supports retrieval of data objects in accordance with the PKCS15 standard. The IBM prior art is clearly directed at speeding up data retrieval for large database systems in computers supporting multiple storage media. A smart card supporting the PKCS15 standard was not contemplated by the IBM prior art and it would not be obvious for a person skilled in the art to apply the IBM prior art to a smart card device. Thus, independent claims 1, 8 and 15 are no longer obvious. Similarly, claims 3-7, 10-14 and 16-18 depend from independent claims 1, 8 and 15 that are no longer obvious and therefore cannot be rejected as being obvious.

No new matter has been added in the amended claims. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of the claims.

Please charge any additional fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1142.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are now allowable and Applicant requests reconsideration of the present application.

Respectfully,



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